

## Valley Creek School Council Meeting Minutes – February 17th, 2026

### Current Executive

Chair: Sarah Parchewsky	Key Communicator: VACANT	Assistant Principal: Stephanie Buchan
Vice-chair: Krista Delorme	Acting Principal: Sandra Martin	Teacher Rep: ROTATING
Secretary: Celeste McIlhargey	Assistant Principal: Meghan LaBarbera	Members-at-large:

### Attendees:

Lisa Antichow, Celeste McIlhargey, Sarah Parchewsky, Krista Delorme, Raye-Lynn Graham, Annika Triantifillou, Kirsten Ledergerber, Shelley Wiart, Saba, Onome Allu, Bhart Garg

Sandra Martin (Acting Principal)

Meghan La Barbera (Assistant Principal)

Stephanie Buchan (Assistant Principal)

Teacher rep – Katelyn Friesen

Guests –

Maya Parchewsky (Grade 7 student)

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm BY Sarah. Welcome and Introductions.
- 2) Agenda reviewed. Motion to approve agenda by Lisa Seconded by Celeste and January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 meeting minutes by Lisa Seconded by Celeste All in Favour. Approved.
  - a) Note change to agenda: March meeting will take place online (not in person)
- 3) Administration & School updates by Principal (Sandra)
  - a) Admin Updates

- SWAT/Leadership Students/Charger’s Connection Committee
  - SWAT (student wellness team): they are working on activities around the school on the word “Kindness” – they made paper chains of kind messages. This was based on the wellness symposium they attended in December. They have also planned an activity with a buddy-class.
  - Charger’s Connection Committee: has many ideas. Maya (tonight’s guest) is one of the members. Sandra shared data from survey on belonging and connectedness with the students. They will go around and share the purpose of the council and the survey. Then at the next meeting they will come up with plans/next steps based on information. “When do you feel the most included and happiest at school?”
  - Leadership students: Grade 7/8/9 students – they have different initiatives around kindness and connectedness. They have been given a mission to make posters about community pride + community clean up (phone calls from community members prompted this). The community clean-up will be school-wide. There is another group of leadership students selling candy-grams to move some of the initiatives from the Charger’s Connection Committee. These funds from leadership students will support the Charger’s Connection Committee.
  - Andrea Sarson (new area rep) contact info is [ajsarson@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:ajsarson@cbe.ab.ca) 403-777-6820
- Presentation from Stephanie Buchan – School Development Plan – 2026 School Planning
  - This is required + structured by CBE
  - This year we are talking about school planning + next meeting we will discuss school engagement
  - School planning is about determining priorities, taking action + monitoring progress
  - Our plan is not just a document we post + forget about, it guides our assessment strategies, PD, school structures + processes, resources, etc
  - Our school goal: *Increase student engagement through effective task design and inclusive assessment practices to improve overall student achievement*

- Outcome of goal: *student achievement will improve by engagement in responsive learning cycles and actionable feedback*
- Use report card data + perception data (multiple surveys to be used)
- Monitoring plan: professional learning communities, student achievement data, screener data, etc
- Multiple action items reviewed – the work is ongoing throughout the year
- Staff learning is also tied to the goal
- No questions at mid-point
- Stephanie conducted several polls
- At the next council meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> we will focus on the budget and school fees
- Summary of feedback will be shared by Friday as well as meeting evaluation
- Updated school development plan is shared by November
- You have to look at the SIRR to look at how well you are achieving the goal year over year (or at least what happens from year to year with the SDP)

b) Funding Requests

- Follow up on School Jerseys for Cross-Country & Track Team (tabled from January)
- Katelyn Friesen has started a fashion club through teaching herself how to sew and using the machines at school. The machines are in disrepair and need to be serviced.
  - Students from Grades 7,8,9 have joined the club to learn how to sew to repair their clothing + make new things
  - We want to get into more projects but we are running into issues with the machines
  - There are 18 sewing machines, 3 surgers, 1 embroidery machine
  - The service tech for CBE gave a quote of service call is \$20, per sewing machine is \$25, and \$30 per surger (unclear for the embroidery machine)
  - Parts are extra – it is unclear how much the parts would be since we don't know what is wrong with each machine
  - It would support a return of Fashion Studies as a course

- I would also be requesting funding for sewing supplies to update – I did an entire inventory on what is left from a few years ago – we do have quite a few supplies but there are some missing things (webbing, interfacing, fresh thread, etc). This is \$200.
- The \$850 in the funding request is the service call + general supplies but not the repairs.
- *Q: number of students* – there has been minimum of 7, another day we had up to 17 – it is a lunch time club and so the participation varies – most recently we had 10-12 and ran out of machines (these take place on Wednesday at lunch, but has also been offered on Monday after-school. After-school may need to be more well-researched).
- *Q: timeline for course* – There are logistical pieces to changing this into a course – so first is there human resources for it? Then we send out a student interest survey and based on amount of interest we build it into select. There are other moving parts to this (repair, resources). Half the battle is # of students + teachers for it.
- *Q: what about cloth + materials?* Could parents donate some materials? There have already been some donations from a variety of sources of fabrics. Katelyn will also bring in old clothes + ask kids to do the same to focus on “thrift-flipping” – changing existing clothes into new sizes and new styles

c) Admin Questions

- *Review candy expiration from last year’s dance – is there something that the SWAT may want to do?* Annika did an inventory of the candy that we used for the past school dances. This is what was left from the store room. Mostly pop + Swedish berries. All dates are listed as “Best Before.” Sandra will research it and report back.
- *Has anyone reviewed the classroom complexity tool that was released from the government?* The information that the school received today was that the data that was used was not current (so some of the complexities have shifted). It is unclear where the extra supports will go, but right now it appears that most supports will go to Elementary. They are still waiting on information.

- *School dance*: This is still part of the SWAT plan but they have not picked when. They want to spread the activities out throughout the year and one week of solid activities. They are still planning a date.

d) Guest speakers

- None

4) Hidden Valley School Liaison Report (Raye-Lynn)

- a) They want to say thank you to the leadership students who volunteered for their pyjama dance
- b) They are still getting the big traffic sign (by the end of March)

5) Hidden Valley Community Association Report (Raye-Lynn)

- a) Budget discussion on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Hidden Hut – they want as many people to go as possible
- b) Winter Festival is on Saturday Feb 21<sup>st</sup> from 1 pm – 3 pm
- c) Pedestrian awareness in the crosswalk

6) New Business/Other Business

- a) Volunteers needed: Key Communicator, Fundraising Committee
- b) VCS Chair Update (Sarah)
  - 6.1 Next meeting March 17<sup>th</sup> 2026 will take place online
  - 6.2 School Engagement Grant \$1,500
    - Student Committee will develop ideas
    - Non-instructional days: February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>
    - Report cards Feb 24<sup>th</sup>
  - School Trustee to be invited by April
  - Mother Earth Workshop Update (Shelley)
    - This will be paid for by the Amazon Web Services grant. There is no deadline to spend it. It has to go towards reconciliation activities. There are no restraints.
    - Shelley has an artist in mind to do land art with the students (focusing on honourable harvest from Braiding Sweetgrass). It is an indoor land-based activity.
    - Could probably do Grade 5/6/7/8 for \$1800
    - *Is there time to do it this year?* It's best if we can do this all in one day and the students can rotate in.

7) Next meeting date:

- a) Next meeting Tuesday March 17th 6:30 pm ONLINE (Link to be sent by admin the Monday before the meeting)
- 8) Motion to adjourn at 7:43 pm by Sarah. All in favour. Adjourned.